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On December 2, 2002

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Maska M. Marinella

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Frank J. Gonzalez and Pedro Fernandez-Salguero

Application No.: 09/308,080

Filed: October 28, 1999

FOR DETECTING DIHYDROPYRIMIDINE

DEHYDROGENASE SPLICING

MUTATIONS

Examiner:

Steadman, D

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 1652

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed July 2, 2002, Applicants submit some Amendments and Remarks in order to place the application in condition for allowance or in better condition for an Appeal.

Applicants have filed a petition for an extension of time to the present date with payment of the appropriate fee. Applicants have also filed a Notice of Appeal.